

CLAIMS

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2 1. A method for identifying plausible sources of error in a risk assessment  
3 system, comprising:  
4 identifying at least one variable of the risk assessment system;  
5 determining a first hypothesis about the at least one variable;  
6 providing an initial probability of the first hypothesis about the at least one  
7 variable;  
8 identifying a change of value in the at least one variable of the risk assessment  
9 system;  
10 determining an evidentiary finding based on the change of value in the at least  
11 one variable of the risk assessment system; and  
12 evaluating the initial probability of the first hypothesis based on the  
13 evidentiary finding.  
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15 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one variable of the risk  
16 assessment system comprises input data of the risk assessment system.  
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18 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one variable of the risk  
19 assessment system comprises output data of the risk assessment system.  
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21 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one variable of the risk  
22 assessment system comprises data external to the risk management system but related  
23 to the risk assessment system.  
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25 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the risk assessment system comprises a  
26 pre-settlement exposure server.  
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1           6. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one variable of the risk  
2 assessment system comprises observable information.

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4           7. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one variable of the risk  
5 assessment system comprises a plurality of variables, and wherein a first one of the  
6 plurality of variables implicates a second one of the variables.

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8           8. The method of claim 1, wherein determining a first hypothesis about the at  
9 least one variable comprises:  
10 hypothesizing that the at least one variable has not changed in value.

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12           9. The method of claim 1, wherein providing an initial probability of the first  
13 hypothesis comprises:  
14 providing a prior probability of the at least one variable; and  
15 providing an initial conditional probability of the at least one variable.

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17           10. A method for identifying plausible sources of error in a financial risk  
18 assessment (FRA) system, comprising:  
19 identifying a plurality of variables of the FRA system;  
20 implementing a Bayesian network to represent implications between and  
21 among the plurality of variables;  
22 generating an initial probability for each of the plurality of variables of the  
23 FRA system;  
24 extracting observed data from one of the plurality of variables of the FRA  
25 system;  
26 determining an evidentiary finding based on the extracted factual data from the  
27 one of the plurality of variables of the FRA system; and

1 assessing the initial probability for the one of the plurality of variables of the  
2 FRA system based on the evidentiary finding.

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4 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the Bayesian network comprises a  
5 plurality of nodes corresponding to the plurality of variables.

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7 12. The method of claim 11, further comprising:  
8 assigning each one of the plurality of network nodes to one of the plurality of  
9 variables; and  
10 assigning an initial probability to at least one of the plurality of network nodes;

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12 13. The method of claim 10, wherein the plurality of variables comprise input  
13 data of the FRA system.

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15 14. The method of claim 10, wherein one of the plurality of variables  
16 comprises information implicated from input data of the FRA system.

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18 15. The method of claim 10, wherein the Bayesian network is implemented by  
19 a software having an applications program interface and a graphical user interface.

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21 16. The method of claim 10, wherein generating the initial probability for  
22 each of the plurality of variables of the FRA system comprises:  
23 setting each of the plurality of variables to a hypothesized state;  
24 generating an initial probability for each of the plurality of variables in the set  
25 hypothesized state.

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27 17. The method of claim 10, wherein the observed data comprise bias data and  
28 fact data about the one of the plurality of variables of the FRA system.

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2 18. The method of claim 10, wherein extracting observed data from one of the  
3 plurality of variables of the FRA system comprises:

4 observing data from the one of the plurality of variables of the FRA system;

5 storing the observed data in a server archive; and

6 extracting the stored data out of the server archive.

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